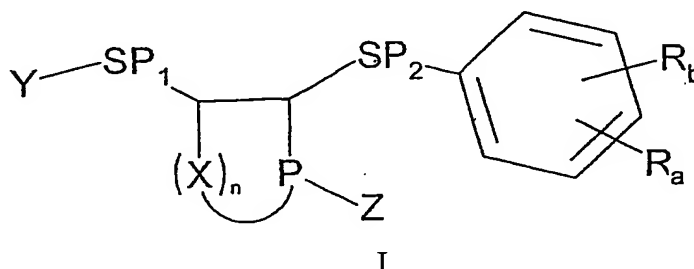


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Original): A compound according to formula I



wherein

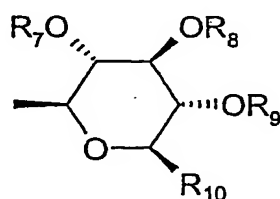
P represents -N< or -C=,

X represents independently of each other -CH₂-, CR₁ (Sp₂- hybridised), O, -NH-, =N-, -CO- or -CS-, wherein R₁ represents H or NR₂, wherein R₂ represents H or lower alkyl, which optionally is linked to Z such that a bicyclic structure is formed;

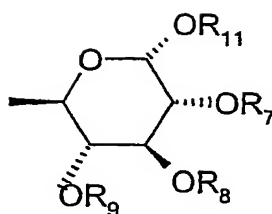
n represents 1 or 2,

R_a represents H, lower alkyl, -OR₃, -O (CO) R₃, -O (CO) OR₃, -O (CO) NR₃R₄, -N₃R₄, -NR₃ (CO) R₄, -COOR₃, -CONR₃R₄, -CH=CHCOOR₃, -CF₃, -CN, -NO₂, SO₃H, PO₃H or halogen, wherein R₃ and R₄ represent H or lower alkyl,

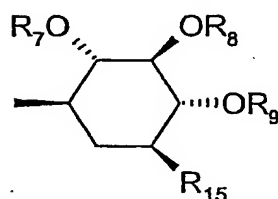
R_b represents H, OH, -OSO₂Me, -OSO₂W wherein W represents optionally substituted aryl or heteroaryl, -OCO(CHOH)₂COOR₅ wherein R₅ represents H or lower alkyl; or represents the formula -Sp₃-R₆,
 wherein Sp₃ represents a covalent bond, -O-, -OCH₂-, -OSO₂CH₂-, -OSO₂-, -OSO₂-(p) C₆H₄O- and R₆ represents one of carbohydrate structures A-D:



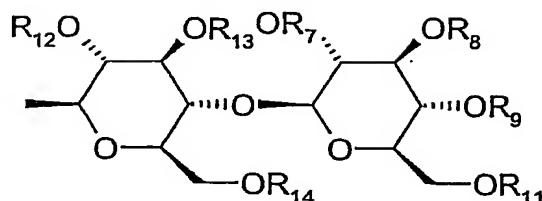
A



B



C



D

wherein

R_7 , R_8 , R_9 , R_{11} , R_{12} , R_{13} and R_{14} represent independently of each other H, lower alkyl, aryl(lower alkyl), -CO-lower alkyl, -CO-aryl, $-SO_3^-$ or $-PO_3^-$,

R_{10} represents $-CH_2OR_{16}$ or $-COOR_{17}$, and

R_{15} represents $-CH_2OR_{16}$, $-COOR_{17}$, $-CH_2NH_2$, $-CH_2OPO_3^-$ or $-CH_2OSO_3^-$, wherein R_{16} and R_{17} independently of each other represent H, lower alkyl, aryl (lower alkyl), -CO-lower alkyl, -CO-aryl, $-SO_3^-$ or $-PO_3^-$,

Z represents optionally substituted aryl or heteroaryl,

Sp_1 represents a spacer unit, such as a straight-chain or branched lower alkyl group $-(CH_2)_p-$, wherein p is from 2-6, which is unsubstituted, mono or poly-substituted by -OH, -OR₁₈, halogen or cyano group, wherein one or more $-CH_2-$ groups may independently be replaced by -O-, -CO-, -CO-O-, -O-CO-, -NR₁₉-, -NR₁₉-CO-, -CO-NR₁₉-, -CH=CH-, $-C\equiv C-$ and wherein R_{18} and R_{19} represent a hydrogen atom or lower alkyl;

Sp_2 represents an optional spacer unit, such as a covalent bond or a straight-chain or branched lower alkyl group $-(CH_2)_q-$, wherein q is from 1-6, which is unsubstituted, mono or poly-substituted by -OH, -OR₂₀, halogen or cyano group, wherein one or more $-CH_2-$ groups may independently be replaced by -O-, -CO-, -CO-O-, -O-CO-, -NR₂₁-, -NR₂₁-CO-, -CO-NR₂₁-, -CH=CH-, $-C\equiv C-$ and wherein R_{20} , and R_{21} ,

represents a hydrogen atom or lower alkyl;

Y represents optionally substituted aryl or heteroaryl,

with the proviso, that if $P = -N<$, $n=1$, $X = -CO-$ and Sp_2 represents a covalent bond, R_6 may not represent carbohydrate structures A or D for $Sp_3 = -O-$ and R_6 may not represent carbohydrate B for $Sp_3 = -OCH_2-$.

2. (Original): A compound according to claim 1, with the proviso, that if $P = -N<$, $n=1$, $X = -CO-$ and Sp_2 represents a covalent bond, R_b may not represent H or OH and Sp_3 may not represent a covalent bond, $-O-$ or $-OCH_2-$.

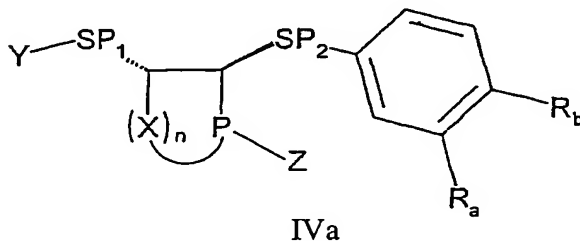
3. (Currently Amended): A compound according to ~~claims 1 or 2~~ claim 1, wherein $P = -N<$, $n = 1$ and $X = -CO-$, $-CS-$, $-CH_2-$ or $-NH-$.

4. (Currently Amended): A compound according to ~~claims 1 or 2~~ claim 1, wherein $P = -N<$, $n = 1$ and $X = -CS-$, $-CH_2-$ or $-NH-$.

5. (Currently Amended): A compound according to ~~claims 1 or 2~~ claim 1, wherein $P = -N<$ and $-(X)_n = -OOC-$, $-COO-$, $-CONH-$, $-CH=N-$.

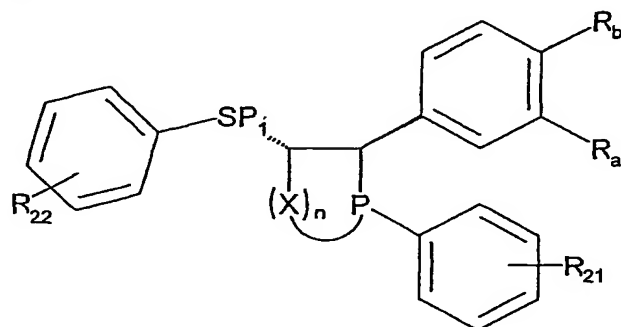
6. (Currently Amended): A compound according to ~~claims 1 or 2~~ claim 1, wherein $P = -C=$ and $-(X)_n = -NH-N=$ or $-O-N=$.

7. (Currently Amended): A compound according to ~~claims 1 or 2~~ claim 1, having the formula IVa



wherein R_a , R_b , Sp_1 , Sp_2 , P , X , Y , Z and n are as defined in ~~claims 1 or 2~~ claim 1.

8. (Currently Amended): A compound according to ~~claims 1 or 2~~ claim 1 having the formula IVb,



IVb

wherein R_a , R_b , Sp_1 , P , X and n are as defined hereinabove and wherein R_{21} and R_{22} represent H, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy or halogen.

9. (Currently Amended): A compound according to ~~claims 7 or 8~~ claim 7, wherein $P = -N<$, $n = 1$ and $X = -CO-$, $-CS-$, $-CH_2-$ or $-NH-$.

10. (Currently Amended): A compound according to ~~claims 7 or 8~~ claim 7, wherein $P = -N<$, $n = 1$ and $X = -CS-$, $-CH_2-$ or $-NH-$.

11. (Currently Amended): A compound according to ~~claims 7 or 8~~ claim 7, wherein $P = -N<$ and $-(X)_n = -OOC-$, $-COO-$, $-CONH-$, $-CH=N-$.

12. (Currently Amended): A compound according to ~~claims 7 or 8~~ claim 7, wherein $P = -C=$ and $-(X)_n = -NH-N=$ or $-O-N=$.

13. (Currently Amended): A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of ~~any preceding claim~~ claim 1 with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

14. (Original): A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 13 for the treatment or prevention of arteriosclerosis or for the reduction of cholesterol levels.

15. (Original): A kit comprising a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 13 for use in the treatment or prevention of arteriosclerosis or for the reduction of cholesterol levels.

16. (Currently Amended): A method for the treatment or prevention of arteriosclerosis or for the reduction of cholesterol levels comprising administering to a subject in need of such treatment an effective amount of a compound according to ~~claims 1 to 12~~claim 1.

17. (Cancelled)